



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/922,196	08/02/2001	Gregory Maurice Plow	STL920000036US1	1401

7590

10/20/2005

John L. Rogitz
Rogitz & Associates
Suite 3120
750 B Street
San Diego, CA 92101

EXAMINER

DERWICH, KRISTIN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2132

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

MAILED

OCT 20 2005

Technology Center 2100



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 09/922,196
Filing Date: August 02, 2001
Appellant(s): PLOW ET AL.

John Rogitz
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed July 21, 2005 appealing from the Office
action mailed May 24, 2005.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is incorrect.

The amendment after final rejection filed on July 20, 2005 has been entered.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

5794259

Kikinis

8-1998

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claims 1-4, 9-12, 14 and 24-26 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). this rejection is fully set forth in a prior Office action mailed May 24, 2005.

1. Claims 1-4, 9-12, 14, 17-19, 21, 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over Pennell et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication Number U.S. 2002/0013788 A1.
2. Regarding claims 1-4, 9-12, 17-19, 21, 24-26, Pennell et al. disclose a method for automatically inputting user information to an electronic form provided to a user from a server comprising receiving the electronic form at the user computer requiring user input (see paragraphs 0022-0024; claim 1); retrieving user information from memory and automatically inputting the user information to the electronic form (see paragraphs 0024, 0028, 0034; claim 37, 38); updating the user information stored in the user computer in response to a user manually inputting data to the form (see paragraph 0032; claim 1); providing a menu of user names each corresponding to a respective autofill profile, and allowing a user to select a name from the menu (see paragraphs 0029, 0033).
3. Regarding claim 14, Pennell et al. disclose encrypting the autofill profile and saving the autofill profile (see paragraph 0032; claim 1).

4. Claims 5-8,13,15,16, 20, 22, 23, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pennell et al., as established above, in view of Kikinis, U.S. Patent Number 5,794,259.

5. Regarding claims 5, 6,13, 20 and 27, although Pennell et al. disclose encrypting and saving the autofill profile (see paragraph 0032-0033), they do not specify establishing a PIN to access the information. Nevertheless, restricting access to encrypted files by way of a PIN was well known in the art at the time of the invention. Kikinis discloses, in a similar field of endeavor, storing the data of an autofill profile in encrypted form, accessible by a password (see column 4, lines 32-34). Note that "Personal Identification Number" may be synonymous with "password". Newton's Telecom Dictionary defines "PIN Number" as: A group of characters entered as a secret code to gain access to a computer system (see entries for "Personal Identification Number" and "PIN Number"). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have required the use of a PIN to access the protected, encrypted information in order to authenticate the proper user with a access code that only the proper user would know.

6. Regarding claim 7,15, and 22, Kikinis discloses the use of a password to access the personal information at which time the information is requested, as outlined above. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have required the use of a PIN to access the protected, encrypted information in order to authenticate the proper user with a access code that only the proper user would know.

7. Regarding claim 8,16, and 23, Pennell et al. disclose automatically inputting user information from the autofill profile to the electronic form (see paragraph 0034; claim 37-38), as outlined above. Further, Pennell et al. disclose saving the profile in encrypted form, deeming it inherent that the profile is decrypted upon use. However, Pennell et al. do not disclose access to the profile based specifically on a correct PIN, as stated above. Nevertheless, restricting access to encrypted files by way of a PIN was well known in the art at the time of the invention. Kikinis discloses, in a similar field of endeavor, storing the data of an autofill profile in encrypted form, accessible by a password (see column 4, lines 32-34). Note that "Personal Identification Number" may be synonymous with "password". Newton's Telecom Dictionary defines "PIN Number" as: A group of characters entered as a secret code to gain access to a computer system (see entries for "Personal Identification Number" and "PIN Number"). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have required the use of a PIN to access the protected, encrypted information in order to authenticate the proper user with a access code that only the proper user would know.

(10) Response to Argument

The Applicant has argued:

Nowhere in the sections of Pennell et al. that have been relied upon in the rejections is manual user data input to the server form 100 itself discussed, much less that direct user manual input to the server form 100, as opposed to the autofill window 401, is used for updating user information.

The Examiner contends that Pennell et al. does in fact discuss manually inputting user data into the form received from the server. As stated in paragraph 32, lines 1-4, **"The information displayed in the pop up window 401 may have been initially supplied directly by the user or may have been learned as the user entered data in the normal course of filling out forms on web pages."** The examiner regards the normal course of filling out forms on web pages to include filling out forms received from a the server without the use of a pop up window and manually filling out user information directly onto the form received from the server. In Pennell et al., the data that is shown in the pop up window is learned as the user enters data manually directly on the form received from the server, thus the information contained in the pop up window is updated based on the information manually entered into the form received from the server.

Applicant further argues:

No matter how broadly the present claims are interpreted, there is no way to equate what they require-particular autofill activities performed on a form that is received from a server- with Pennell et al., wherein the relied upon activities are performed on a pop-up window that resides in the user computer database.

The Examiner contends that, as previously cited, the autofill activities are performed on a form received from server as implied by "forms on web pages". The pop up window performs the autofill activities onto the form received from the server

Art Unit: 2132

based on user data that has been previously filled into a web form from a server as disclosed in paragraph 32.

Finally, Applicant argues:

The obviousness rejections are based on equating the claimed PINs to Kikinis' passwords, citing a dictionary definition that interestingly does not define a "PIN" to be a "password". Because the examiner's own dictionary fails to make the relied-upon equivalence, the rejections should be reversed.

The Examiner contends that a PIN could be used as a password based on the definitions of each. As stated in Newton's Telecom Dictionary, a password is, "A word or string of characters recognized by automatic means permitting a user access to a place or to protected storage, files or input or output devices." Since Applicant utilizes a PIN having the functionality of a password, exhibited by Applicant's specification, pg. 10, paragraph 1, lines 2-7, "At block 60, the user is asked to input his or her PIN. At decision diamond 62 it is determined whether this PIN is correct. If an incorrect PIN is entered, the logic moves to block 64 where a notice is displayed to the user that an incorrect PIN has been entered. Then, the logic returns to block 60 and the user is again asked to enter his or her PIN. If at decision diamond 62, a correct PIN is entered, the logic continues to block 66 where the autofill profile is decrypted." Therefore, the PIN is a string of characters that permits a user access to their autofill profile which constitutes the use of the PIN as a password.

Art Unit: 2132

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

(12) Conclusion

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

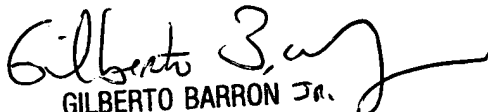



KMD 10/14/05

Conferees:

Gilberto Barron

Matthew Smithers


GILBERTO BARRON JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100


MATTHEW SMITHERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Art Unit 2137